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Notice of Allowability

Application No.

09/840,956

Applicant(s)

BOEUF, PATRICK GASTON
JOSEPH

Examiner

Boris Pesin

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to 05/13/2005.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-10, 12, 14-18 and 20.
3. ☒ The drawings filed on 24 April 2001 are accepted by the Examiner.
4. ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☒ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.
THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

5. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
 6. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
7. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date _____
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. ☒ Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date _____
7. ☒ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____

Kristine Lincaid
KIRSTINE LINCAID
SUPERVISOR, PATENT EXAMINER
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2100

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

The application has been amended as follows:

1. Claim 1, Line 15, delete "may".
2. Claim 1, Line 15, replace "display" with --displays--.
3. Claim 1, Line 16, delete "simply".
4. Claim 12 (Currently amended) A method of displaying windows in a computer having display subsystem, the method comprising the steps of:
 - (a) opening an application, the application opening a window in the display subsystem;
 - (b) creating a first focus buoy associated with the window, the first focus buoy displayed on the window;
 - (c) storing the location on the display subsystem of the first focus buoy in a memory;
 - (d) opening a subsequent application, the subsequent application opening a subsequent window on the display subsystem;
 - (e) creating a subsequent focus buoy associated with the subsequent window, the subsequent focus buoy displayed on the subsequent window;
 - (f) storing the location of the display subsystem of the subsequent focus buoy in the memory;
 - (g) overlaying the first window and the first focus buoy on the display subsystem with the subsequent window thereby making the first focus buoy and all or some of the first window not visible; and

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(h) shaking a mouse connected to the computer and the display subsystem to display the first focus buoy whereby the user may click on the displayed first focus buoy to get the focus of its respective window.

4. Claim 16 (Previously Added) A method of opening and closing windows in a computer system having a display subsystem, comprising:

- (a) opening a plurality of applications,
- (b) opening at least two windows in the display subsystem, the windows associated with two of the plurality of ~~application~~ applications;
- (c) creating at least two focus buoys on the display subsystem, each focus buoy associated with and located on its respective the open windows window;
- (d) recording the location of the focus buoys in memory;
- (e) layering the at least two windows so that the underlying windows and their respective focus buoys are partially or completely not visible to a user;
- (f) shaking a mouse so that all the underlying focus buoys are fully visible and are displayed on the display subsystem; and
- (g) obtaining the focus of a window by clicking on its associated focus buoy.

5. Cancel claim 19.

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: In regards to the independent claims 1, 12 and 16, the prior art does not teach a system for fully

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displaying every focus buoy that is not visible or partially visible by shaking the mouse. While the prior art teaches "portholes" that show parts of other windows that are layered underneath, the prior art does not teach a system that shows all of the focus buoys with a shake of the mouse whereby the user may click on the fully displayed focus buoy to get the focus of its respective window.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Inquiry

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Boris Pesin whose telephone number is (571) 272-4070. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday except every other Friday.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Kristine Kincaid can be reached on (571) 272-4063. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

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